

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 16 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 2, a given individual disk 20a, a portion of which is shown in Fig. 2, is provided, and is mounted on spindle 34a. Spindle 34a comprises first and second disk contacts. Specifically, spindle 34a comprises a first lateral protrusion 36a (shown in Fig. 1 as one of the lateral protrusions 28) and a second lateral protrusion 40a (shown in Fig. 1 as the other of the lateral protrusions 28) which extend from an inner diameter portion 32a of disk 20a. First lateral protrusion 36a comprises an apex which defines a lateral spacing point of contact 38a. Second lateral protrusion 40a comprises an apex which defines a lateral spacing point of contact 42a. An inner diameter of individual disk 20a is in contact with each of lateral spacing points of contact 38a and 42a. A balancing weight may be provided. In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 2, a balancing weight 46a is provided at a location on the outer surface of spindle 34, opposite the locations of lateral protrusions 36a and 40a. The location and structure of balancing weight 46a are not the subject of the invention as described herein, and may be implemented with any technology known to or developed by the artisan. Thus, for example, an overall balancing method or mechanism may be utilized to ensure an overall balance of disk stack 22, without specific individual balancing weights 46a as shown in Fig. 2. The specific size and location of balancing weight 46a may be determined by using balancing methods to ensure that the weight of lateral protrusions 36a and 40a are offset by balancing weight 46a. Alternatively, resesses may be employed in certain areas of spindle 34a in order to offset the additional weight of lateral protrusions 36a and 40a, without providing any additional balancing weight such as balancing weight 46a shown in Fig. 2

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, lines 17-18 as follows:

Balancing weights 46b and 46c are shown in Figs. 3 and 4 for similar purposes, and similar variations of such balancing mechanisms can be provided. In

the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 3, the balancing weight 46b is provided at a location on the outer surface of spindle 34b. In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 4, the balancing weight 46c is provided at a location on the inner diameter of disk 20c.

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, line 24 to page 7, line 5 as follows:

In Fig. 3, a given individual disk 20b is shown where a side of a spindle 34b is biased toward a corresponding part of the inner diameter of disk 20b, whereby the outer diameter of spindle 34b and the inner diameter of disk 20b contact each other at two lateral spacing points of contact 38b and 42b. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 3, the inner diameter portion 32b of disk 20b comprises a disk lateral protrusion 40b protruding radially inwardly. An apex portion of disk lateral protrusion 40b comprises a first of the two lateral spacing points of contact 42b. The outer surface of spindle 34b comprises a spindle lateral protrusion 36b protruding radially outwardly and extending longitudinally along the outer surface of the spindle 34b. An apex portion of spindle lateral protrusion 36b comprises a second of the two lateral spacing points of contact 38b. In the specific embodiment shown in Fig. 3, the distance between the protrusions is 120°. However, the distance between these protrusions may be varied as described above with respect to Fig. 2, and additionally protrusions may be provided.

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 6-12 as follows:

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 4 a disk 20c is biased toward a spindle 34c. Specifically, a side of spindle 34c is biased toward a corresponding part of an inner diameter portion 32c of disk 20c, whereby the outer diameter of spindle 34c and the inner diameter of disk 20c contact each other at two lateral spacing points of contact 38c and 42c. Specifically, the inner diameter of disk 20c comprises two lateral protrusions 36c and 40c protruding radially inwardly. Apex portions of those lateral

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protrusions 36c and 40c comprise the two lateral spacing points of contact 38c and 42c.